

NEW HAMPSHIRE CHAPTER

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES 9 August 2018

Call to Order: President Warren Coulter called the meeting to order at 1830 hours. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those assembled followed by the invocation delivered by Joe DiChiaro.

Attending: Boyle, Breuder, Burdett, Burdo, Coulter, D'Amante, Day, Devoe, DiChiaro, Ikstrums, Jaffin, LeFebvre, Luti, McKittrick, McLean, Register, Spotts. A quorum was present for the meeting.

Opening Remarks: Warren Coulter began by praising Ken Lull and his crew for the outstanding job they did at the Clambake under severe adverse weather conditions. Warren then introduced a guest in attendance at the meeting – Lynne Blankenkemper who is running for the 2nd Congressional District seat. She is a Reserve US Navy Captain Nurse Corps commanding a medical unit in San Diego, CA, with detachments throughout the Pacific. She provided a brief background of her USN duties as a reserve and then outlined her positions as a candidate. Gerry Boyle pointed out that Lynne Blankenkemper had volunteered for a number of years as the attorney advisor for the Merrimack County's Teen Court, where high school kids get together to resolve issues without having to go through the regular court system. Peter Burdett convinced her to rejoin the chapter (she had joined before but dropped out) which she did as a life member. Warren then commented that our new flag stands are in.

Secretary's Report: Michael McLean reported that he received several comments on the July minutes but no corrections. If no one had any other comments, Michael asked for a motion to approve the minutes. A motion was made and seconded to accept the July minutes. Motion passed and minutes accepted.

Immediate Past President Remarks: Peter Burdett commented again (as he had last month) that we need to connect with America's youth in order to get them into the military. He said he tells parents that it is harder for their children to get into the military than it is to get into college. A discussion ensued on whether high schools allow military recruiters to participate in career days or whether they acknowledge those students who choose the military as those who are accepted into various colleges. Several members related personal stories of difficulties they have had with high schools accepting the military. Peter again relayed the story of his son and his success in the military after taking the ASVAB. Tony Burdo asked how are we going to change people's attitudes.

Treasurer's Report: Roby Day asked if anyone had any questions about the July report. He reported that we are very solvent. Roby wanted to take a few minutes to talk about the Clambake. He reported that the final nose count was 241 out of 254. Given the weather conditions, that was pretty good. He said that although we made a small profit on the Clambake, we can not rely on the Clambake to carry the other luncheons during the year as had been our habit. Breaking even on the other luncheons relies on the shoulders of those individuals

organizing the other luncheons. He went on to comment that the Scholarship donations were very good this year, especially due to the very large donation from Dr. Paul Forte. Roby said the Scholarship Loan Fund has a lot of cash available so he is recommending moving money into the investment accounts. He then discussed the 50/50 Raffle and how much is in the veterans account – \$880.20. He thought we should do something with the money. Roby then moved on to discuss the budget of next year. He mentioned that Michael McLean had already provided his input. He asked for anyone with inputs to provide them so Roby can compile a first cut prior to the September Board meeting. The final item was that the Board had neglected to vote yet to reimburse Michael McLean for the purchase of a projector to use at luncheons. A motion was made and seconded to reimburse Michael for the cost. Motion passed. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer’s Report. Motion passed.

Trustees of the Trust Fund: Andrew Breuder reported that everything looks good.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Government Relations (National/State/SVAC/MLT/Vets Count): Peter Burdett reported that the SVAC is on its summer break. The SVAC is holding a summer get together at Weirs Beach on August 22nd. The next meeting of the SVAC is not until the first Tuesday in October.

Personal Affairs: Russ Register reported on this month’s Personal Affairs blast email. He said it covered two subjects. The first was on the opening of 27,000 new grave sites at Arlington National Cemetery. Peter Burdett spoke up to comment that perhaps people ought to consider burial at the Veterans Cemetery at Boscawen. He said that he had heard that surveys ranked Boscawen as the best veterans’ cemetery. The second subject covered passing of the FY19 Defense Authorization Bill. Russ outlined some of the highlights of the bill. **(Read the attached email)**

Membership: Michael McLean presented the following membership numbers:

New members -	3
Deceased members -	4
Dropped members -	1
Current total membership –	688

He has received eighteen responses (checks & on-line) so far in response to his 58 follow-up letters. Michael then passed out a spreadsheet summarizing the average age of those who have joined the chapter in the past five years. **(see attached)**

Recruiting: Jim Spotts began by pointing out that Bancroft McKittrick was still leading the way with recruiting new people. He reported that the LinkedIn page was going pretty well with eighteen members. He said we need to get the word out about the page – in our welcome email and in the newsletter. He went on to point out that two of the three new members this month were Coast Guard people. Sharon Day brought up an occasion where someone she was talking to thought that we were still only for retired officers and did not include former or active. She wondered whether we should put an ad in the newspaper saying that the old “TROA” is now “MOAA”. Jim Spotts pointed out that the most successful recruiting effort so far has been the

broadcast letters sent out by Michael McLean. He went on to say that best way to recruit people is by phone calls. Joe DiChiaro brought up that he feels that the MOAA magazine is for retirees and not for young members because of all the ads for retirement communities. He thinks they should be limited to a few issues a year, not every month. Michael McLean added (sarcastically) that perhaps they should put in ads for Bowie knives or guns?

BREAK FOR DINNER

Reconvened Meeting at 1938

Programs: Gerry Boyle reported that the next event is September 22nd in Grantham. Warren Coulter asked Gerry if he had anything to talk about the 2019 program schedule. Gerry said the venues for next year are pretty much the same as for this year. Michael McLean brought up, that for the Spouses and Friends Program at the November meeting, if Tony Burdo wanted, he could have a rep from Collette provide a briefing on the upcoming travel trips for next year. Michael said that the program could be split between Collette and someone briefing on the new dental and vision programs that take effect in January 2019. As far as the new dental program is concerned, Joe DiChiaro brought up that you should check with your dentist to see which plan he/she participates in before you choose a plan. Warren again asked Gerry if he would have a schedule for next year. Gerry assured that he would.

Web Page: Michael McLean reported there were 327 hits in July, down from 336 in June.

Popular Pages in July:

Hits Page

39	Program Notes
20	Odds and Ends
20	Newsletter
20	Tricare
18	Membership
14	Chapter News
6	Group Travel
4	Virtual Store
3	Transition Assistance
1	UNK
181	General

Travel Programs: Tony Burdo submitted the following report:

Six passengers booked for this year.

Four potential bookings for the Magnificent Cities of Central and Eastern Europe for 2019

Ten passengers booked for 2020.

I received five of the six 2019 brochures from Collette. Awaiting the brochure for Canyon Country.

Five of our 2019 tours are now on our website.

I requested a blast email for our “trip of the month” in June. To date, I have not seen the email.

Michael McLean pointed out that Geoff Corson is now in charge of the blast emails so Tony should get hold of him.

Awards: Joe DiChiaro reported that there will be no report until schools resume.

Scholarship Loan Program: Joe DiChiaro submitted the following report:

The checks for the first semester have been mailed to the respective institutions of higher learning and the students have been notified. In keeping with the latest concerns of NH losing workforce and the need to become more diverse as a result, of the nine students receiving loans this year only ONE is attending a college in NH and it isn't UNH, Plymouth State or Keene State. Since it is reported that only 30% of students leaving the state for college return to NH as opposed to 70% of those attending in NH remain, maybe we should be asking why our overpriced State schools are losing students to other states. We have Florida, California, Alabama, South Carolina, MA, Vt, and Maine benefiting from our scholarship recipients this year. I may pull a Michael and go back over the years and see how long this trend has been occurring.

NH Veterans Home: Joe DiChiaro submitted the following report:

Very enjoyable Car Show with the Bel Airs providing live performance of the DOO - WOP era music. Thanks to Pete for also volunteering to guide one of the wheel chair bound residents through the cars and to listen to the music.

Strategic Initiatives (SIC): Bruce Avery not present.

Granite State Warriors Award: Bruce Avery not present.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Nominations (Directors & Officers): Nothing new.

PAO: Kent Whitman not present. He submitted **the attached report** for PAO and Blast Email.

Granite Slate: Marie Chipola not present.

Web Communications - FB: Jon VanGuilder not present.

SUD (Substance Use Disorders) Committee: Andrew Breuder reported that the next SUDS meeting is next week. Now that he has been elevated to co-chair, he will be attending the full Committee meetings. He added that the new TAG has attended the last few meetings.

Blast Email: Geoff Corson not present. See PAO report.

LIAISONS:

ESGR: Sandy Way not present.

Transition Liaison: Jim LeFebvre reported that he is working on revising his input for the Transition Assistance page on our web site. Jim said he will not be present for the September Board meeting.

VAMC Manchester: Bernie Satterfield not present.

Martins Point: Bob Jaffin had nothing to report on Martins Point.

Auxiliary: Gwen Devoe reported that we had eight deaths since her last report. She said she had a nice conversation with Patricia Jacobsmeyer.

OLD BUSINESS:

Clambake: Warren Coulter asked if anyone had any further comments on the Clambake. Sharon Day and Warren added comments about individual stories. Roby Day added a tremendous vote of confidence for Ken Lull and his Clambake crew. Roby asked how we are going to continue after Ken steps down as Bakemaster.

NEW BUSINESS:

New TRICARE Retiree Dental and Vision Plan: Warren Coulter reiterated the importance of getting the information out concerning this program. He mentioned that we will have a rep at the September luncheon to answer questions about the transition.

Other New Business: Warren Coulter announced that Bruce Avery has asked to resign as Assistant Treasurer effective in November. Warren said we are looking for someone to replace him.

Warren then brought up the issue of our veterans donation and what to do with the money. A discussion followed as to how to divide the money. Sharon Day brought up that perhaps we should consider giving money to the recipients of the GSWA – “put our money where our mouth is”. A motion was made to contribute \$300.00 each to the Veterans Home, Camp Resilience and DV Farm. Motion seconded. Motion passed.

Warren Coulter brought up a proposal from Ray D’Amante. Ray’s subject was the drop in membership and how to attract new younger members. Ray went on to discuss his proposal. His basic idea was to create a fund where people could join the chapter free for the first year and then, if they continue, they would pay regular membership dues. Ray continued to talk about where we could find new people. He offered, with his wife Cinda, to fund an initial program with \$2,500 to test his initiative. Tony Burdo suggested that a committee to pursue Ray’s idea might be good. Several members agreed. A discussion pursued with Jim Spotts pointing out three phases of retirement. He said we should concentrate on the transitioning officers. It was decided to form the committee with Jim Spotts as chairman. Ray D’Amante, Bancroft McKittrick and Tony Burdo agreed to serve on it.

Sharon Day pointed out that the Red Blazer has been very generous in our use of the room.

Applications: Warren reminded everyone to carry application forms with them.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will begin at 1830 on Thursday, 13 September, 2018 at the Red Blazer in Concord, NH.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2013 hours.

Michael A. McLean
CDR, USN (Ret.)
Secretary
New Hampshire Chapter
(ATTACHMENTS: 3)



Title: August 2018 Personal Affairs Report

Message:

Arlington National Cemetery is opening 27,000 new grave sites. The Millennium Project at the cemetery recently opened for new burials. These 27,000 new gravesites will only extend the active life of the cemetery, which buries an average of 30 service members or spouses per day, for a few more years. Congress is moving ahead with instructions to the Secretary of the Army to change the eligibility criteria for burials to extend the life of the cemetery. There will be more discussion on this subject as there are many issues with changing the eligibility criteria. Members can read more about this in the August issue of Military Officer Magazine on pages 20 and 22.

On August 1st, the Senate passed the FY19 Defense Authorization Bill. The bill now heads to President Trump for signature. The bill includes a 2.6% military pay raise, exclusion of potential TRICARE fee increases, and no reduction in Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH). Members can read more about this at:

<https://www.moaa.org/Content/Publications-and-Media/News-Articles/2018-News-Articles/Advocacy/Senate-Sends-Defense-Bill-to-President.aspx>

MOAA-NH AVERAGE AGE JOINED

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>AVERAGE</u>
JOINED	27	26	27	26	28	15	25
AVG AGE	63	65	64	57	63	58	62
DROPPED	12	9	11	4	1	0	6
AVG AGE	60	63	58	59	77		63
DIED	1		2				2
AVG AGE	83		92				88
REMAINING	14	17	14	22	27	15	18
AVG AGE	64	67	65	56	63	58	62
JOIN ONLINE				1	8	2	4
AVG AGE				63	65	54	61
% OF JOINED				4%	29%	13%	15%

MOAA-NH PAO August 2018 Report by Whit and Geoff

PRs were sent to 11 newspapers in NH for the 5 star award and the annual clambake.

Following is provided by Geoff:

AUGUST 2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS INPUT

BLAST E-MAIL

Below is August recipient report as extracted from iCONTACT. Initial Blast e-mail errors (attributable to turnover/ inexperience of current incumbent) have largely been remedied. Please let me know if there are still subscribers who are not being reached; if there are additional errors in content; or other comments/suggestions as warranted.

Respectfully submitted,

G.A. Corson (Geoff)

Blast e-mail POC)

BLAST E-MAIL SUBJECT	DATE SENT	NUMBER SENT TO	NUMBER OPENED/%	UNIQUE OPENS/%	UNIQUE CLICKS/%	CLICK TO OPEN RATE %	MANNER OF OPENINGS %: BY COMPUTER	MANNER OF OPENINGS %: BY MOBILE	MANNER OF OPENINGS %: BY TABLET
TDRP UPDATE	3 AUG 2018	303 CONTACTS	66/21.78%	41/13.53%	3/.99%	7.32% 2 BOUNCES/0 UNSUBSCRIBES	64%	31%	5%
AUG 2018 PA RPT	2 AUG 2018	303 CONTACTS	158/52.15%	110/36.3%	9/2.97%	8.18% 2 BOUNCES/0 UNSUBSCRIBES	46%	34%	20%
MOAA-NH LINKED-IN GROUP	21 JUL 2018	303 CONTACTS	254/83.83%	138/45.54%	0	0 1 BOUNCE/ 0 UNSUBSCRIBES	45%	33%	23%
STORAGE FOR CLAM BAKE GEAR	17 JUL 2018	307 CONTACTS	199/64.82%	138/44.95%	0	0 6 BOUNCES/0 UNSUBSCRIBES	46%	31%	23%
MOAA-NH LUNCHEON 23 JUN 18	16 JUL 2018	307 CONTACTS	271/88.27%	149/48.53%	49/15.96%	32.89% 1 BOUNCE/0 UNSUBSCRIBES	50%	35%	15%